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Remarks

In response to the Examiner's Office Action, Applicant has presented an amendment to the claims that Applicant submits overcomes the Examiner's rejections and objections and places the application in condition for allowance.

The objectionable informalities in claims 26 and 30 have been corrected.

The objection to claim 27 based upon section 112, second paragraph, has been obviated by the inclusion of antecedent basis for "said program".

Claims 55-57 and 59 have been amended to reference the "printing plate" of claim 67 to overcome the Examiner's objection.

Claims 69-70 have been amended to reference the "processor" of claim 68 to overcome the Examiner's objection.

Claim 73 has been amended to reference the "printing plate" of claim 14 to overcome the Examiner's objection.

Claim 74 has been amended to reference the "printing plate" of claim 20 to overcome the Examiner's objection.

Claim 26 has been revised to clarify that it is directed to a "processor" having recited functions, thus overcoming the Examiner's objection.

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Claims 27, 30 and 48 have been revised to clarify that it is directed to a program product that is a computer readable medium bearing an executable program.

Claim 68 has been revised to clarify that it is directed to a processor, capable of reading a threshold array.

Claim 75 has been clarified to clarify that it is directed to a program product that is in a computer readable medium bearing an executable program.

Regarding the Examiner's rejections based on 35 USC 101, Applicant has overcome the Examiner's rejections as follows:

Claim 26 as amended clearly recites a processor executing a program that generates a halftone screen and stores the halftone screen. This is not a claim to data per se and thus is statutory.

Claims 27, 30, 48, 61 and 75 as amended recite a computer readable medium bearing a program that is "executable by a processor" or "computer executable". Applicant submits that this is not a claim to "non-functional descriptive data" but rather to an executable program.

Claim 68 as amended clearly recites a "raster image processor" which is statutory subject matter.

A petition for one month extension of time accompanies this communication; if, however, this petition is missing, please consider this paper a petition for such three-month extension of time, and apply the appropriate extension of

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time fee to Deposit Account 23-3000. If any other charges or credits are necessary to complete this communication, please apply them to Deposit Account 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

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